

DRAWING CLOSE TO PEKIN

General Chaffee Reports the Allies at Matow on Saturday.

Little Opposition by Chinese Troops. But Many Protests of American Soldiers Caused by the Intense Heat—Government Officials Believe That the International Force Must Have Reached Tung-Chow on Monday, From Which Point There Is a Paved Road Direct to the Imperial Capital—Several Important Despatches Received Here Today.

The following despatch from Admiral Remy at Taku was received at the Navy Department this morning:

"Taku, August 12, 1900. "Bureau of Navigation, Washington: "Just received undated from 'Chief' Matow, yesterday, opposition of no consequence, yet terrible heat, many men prostrate. Please inform Secretary of War."

As the message left Taku Sunday and as it refers to "yesterday," the date of General Chaffee's arrival at Matow cannot have been later than Saturday, August 11. It is accordingly certain that the allies were within twenty-eight miles of Pekin at that time.

The reference to the intense heat makes it probable that the attack on Matow was made near noon on Saturday, and that the hard work was done during the glare of the midday sun. The view that the capture of the place was accomplished Saturday is confirmed by the fact that Chaffee's previous despatches went through to Remy at Taku in less than a day.

The allies took Yanhsun on Monday. After a brief rest there, they advanced twenty miles and captured Hosi-wu on Thursday.

They probably rested there for a day before starting on the march of thirteen miles to Matow, and allowing for a day in making the advance and taking the place, they would have reached there on Saturday, which agrees with the content of Admiral Remy's despatch.

With the allies at Matow, a march of twenty-eight miles would take them to the eastern wall of Pekin. The only important point on the road to the capital is Tung-Chow, fifteen miles from Matow. It is believed that should the Chinese give battle, outside of the capital they would make their stand at Tung-Chow.

It has been expected from the outside that the real fight of the advance would be made there, and that the allies would be met by four batteries and forces, which would seem to afford a fine system of defense.

Must Be Near the Capital. The message published this morning from Mr. Dummer, Governor of Indo-China, announcing that the allies were within sixteen miles of the capital, would place the column just below Tung-Chow, with the battle still to be fought if the Chinese should contest the advance.

No official news has yet been received here indicating that the allies had got beyond Matow, but there is no reason to doubt the truthfulness of the Dummer report. They could easily have rested a day at Matow and still have reached the outskirts of Tung-Chow by Monday. That would give time for a message announcing the advance to reach Paris by last evening.

Officials Become Reticent.

In the uncertainty which surrounds the situation at Pekin the Government officials have become more reticent and reserved. They decline to furnish any information in regard to the despatches received from officials in China, except that relating to accomplished military operations.

Acting Secretary of State Adee today said he thought a great deal of unaccountable mischief might come from speculation as to the contents of official despatches, and he therefore thought that in some cases it would be improper for the State Department to admit even that a message had been received. Several messages came from China to the State Department this morning, but they were not made public.

One of these was from Mr. Fowler, the United States Consul at Ch'foo, and while it was very much mangled in transmission it is apparent from the translatable words that it embodies the contents of the message that came yesterday from Minister Conger.

Mr. Conger says that the situation has grown more critical, that the Chinese Government is trying to force the ministers to leave Pekin, and that they have refused to go until escorted by the allied troops.

Another message is from Mr. Goodnow, the United States Consul General at Shanghai, who has been closely associated with Li Hung Chang recently. It relates to propositions for an armistice. Mr. Goodnow sounds a warning against putting any faith in Chinese promises until the ministers are safely out of Pekin, advising the Government to distrust any of the propositions which may be made by the Imperial authorities.

One of the callers at the State Department today was Baron von Sternburg, the Charge d'Affaires of Germany. He brought a letter of introduction to Secretary Root and asked Mr. Adee to accompany him to Mr. Root's office.

The conversation between the Secretary of War and Baron von Sternburg turned on China, and as the German diplomat had spent six years in the theatre of political and military operations he was able to explain much of interest to Mr. Root. With the aid of the War Department's military maps, Baron von Sternburg gave an interesting exposition of the campaign against Pekin. He called attention to one important fact that had been lost sight of by the authorities here, that Tung-Chow, the river port at Pekin, where the allies expected to have a big fight on Sunday or Monday, had been burned by the Boxers last month. Therefore, Baron von Sternburg thought, the defenses of the place had undoubtedly been weakened and the amount of Chinese opposition at that point had been reduced.

It is officially stated that no exchanges

A Briny Bath at Chesapeake Beach. Just the thing to brace you up today.

Flynn's Business College, 8th and K. Business, shorthand, typewriting—\$25 a year.

Down-to-Date—Lumber Prices—at the Friendly Corner, 6th and N. Y. ave. Common boards \$1.15.

are taking place between this Government and the powers in regard to the future of the Chinese Empire, and that no suggestion in that connection has been received here from any foreign Government.

After leaving the War Department Baron von Sternburg talked freely with the newspaper men.

"The report that the allies have reached Tung-Chow is quite credible," he said. "The place, which is an immense old city extending perhaps five miles along the river front, has a population of 100,000, and it is defended not only with its forts and batteries, but also by huge walls. The place, if properly defended could offer a stout resistance. The Chinese, however, are always so completely prostrated by defeat that the advance of the allies in marching toward Yangtsun may lead them to give up all attempt to hold the city."

"From Tung-Chow to Pekin the allies will be able to go over the paved road connecting the two places. It is in miserable repair, for many of the flags have quite disappeared and only gullies are left behind. Nevertheless, it may prove possible for the column to transport a part of its artillery over the route. The walls of Pekin, fifty feet high and so broad that two coaches can drive abreast upon the top, would make it impossible for the foreigners to batter them down with such guns as they may have; but in case a bombardment is necessary it would be possible for the civilized troops to break down the gates 'leading into the city.'"

THE MONTEREY THREATENED.

Chinese Will Fire on Her if She Passes Bogue Forts.

LONDON, Aug. 15.—A despatch to a news agency from Hongkong of Monday's date, says there are Chinese reports that the Bogue forts will open fire if an additional warship is sent to Canton.

It is reported that the United States monitor Monterey will start for Canton in a few days to relieve the cruiser Don Juan de Austria.

The Chinese say the forts will certainly fire on the Monterey if she attempts to pass them, because the authorities suspect that the foreigners have designs on Canton.

RUSSIAN TROOPS SAIL.

A Steamer Leaves Odessa With Eight Hundred Men.

ODESSA, Aug. 15.—The steamer Tchickoff sailed for the Far East today. She carried 800 troops and large quantities of stores.

TROOPS EN ROUTE TO CHINA.

American Infantry on Its Way to San Francisco.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Aug. 15.—The Eighth Infantry, stationed at Fort Snelling since its return from Cuba, six weeks ago, left this morning for China, via San Francisco. LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Aug. 15.—Two companies of the First Infantry, C and D, under command of Captain Gettle, left Fort Leavenworth at 7 o'clock last evening for San Francisco, whence they will sail for China.

HOARE STILL FIGHTING.

The English Colonel Has Not Surrendered, as Reported.

LONDON, Aug. 15.—A despatch to a news agency from Pretoria confirms the story that Colonel Hoare, the commander of the Elands River garrison, has not surrendered to the Boers under Delany as has been reported.

He is still holding out.

THE PRESIDENT'S ARRIVAL.

Mr. McKinley Expected to Reach the White House Early Tomorrow.

President McKinley is expected to arrive at the White House early tomorrow morning. Immediately after his arrival a Cabinet meeting will be held.

He will remain here until the 24th, when he will leave for Chicago to attend the Grand Army Encampment.

SICKNESS IN THE PHILIPPINES.

More Than Five Thousand American Soldiers Reported to Be Ill.

A report this morning from General MacArthur announced a total of 5,029 men sick among the soldiers in the Philippines in his command. Of that number 3,808 were in hospitals and 1,261 in quarters. The proportion is about the same as it has been for the past six months.

Dysentery and its allied diseases, with a little smallpox, continue to give trouble. Officers in the Surgeon General's Department say that the report is very satisfactory.

CAPTAIN MURPHY KILLED.

Death of a Brave Officer Reported From Manila.

A message received by the Adjutant General today from Manila says that Capt. William L. Murphy, Thirty-ninth United States Volunteer Infantry (first Lieutenant Twenty-fourth United States Infantry) was killed near Tanauan at 10 p. m. Tuesday.

Captain Murphy was born in Iowa and was appointed from that State to the Military Academy. He was made a second Lieutenant of the Twenty-fourth Infantry April 26, 1888, and a first Lieutenant in the same regiment March 2, 1889. He was appointed captain Thirty-ninth United States Infantry August 17, 1899, and was with his regiment in the Philippines.

During the Spanish-American war Captain Murphy served with his regiment in the Santiago campaign and was recommended for bravery at the battle of San Juan.

A POLICE OFFICER SHOT.

Fatally Wounded While Trying to Arrest an Italian.

SCRANTON, Pa., Aug. 15.—James Boland, a police officer of Dunmore Borough, was shot and wounded so severely late last night that he cannot recover.

The shooting was done by an Italian named Tony Long whom Boland was trying to arrest. The murderer escaped to the surrounding woods. The crime has caused intense excitement in the Italian colony and police assistance has been requested from Scranton.

Visit Chautauqua Beach. With your family these hot days. Delightful here. Trains from B & O station, week days, except Saturday, 9:30 a. m. and 4:30 p. m. Rate only 50 cents. Tickets 25 cents.

Going to build? Get new lumber prices first of F. Libbey & Co., some flooring \$1.65.

FIRING ON FOREIGNERS

Chinese Renew Their Attacks on the Pekin Legations.

Food Supplies for the Ministers Said to Have Been Stopped—Fanatics Believed to Be Again in Control at the Capital—A. M. Pichon, in a Despatch Dated August 9, Reports the Situation Critical—Impossible to Leave the City Without European Aid—Bombardment Continues Intermittently—Diplomats Living on Rations of Horse, Rice, and Bread.

LONDON, Aug. 15.—A despatch to the Central News from Shanghai, dated August 14, says: "An authentic despatch has been received here from Pekin, dated August 6, saying that attacks on the legations have been renewed and that supplies of food have been stopped."

"It is feared here that the advance of the allies has again put fanatics at the head of affairs in Pekin."

This despatch, taken in connection with the refusal of the American Government to make public the latest cablegram from Minister Conger, causes London diplomats to believe that the Chinese fanatics at the capital are making a last desperate effort to annihilate the foreign ministers and those under their protection before the allies are able to reach the walled city.

This belief is strengthened by a morning despatch from Paris of today's date, which says that a cablegram from Minister A. M. Pichon, the French Minister at Pekin, stating that the situation is still critical. The bombardment of the besieged foreigners continues intermittently.

M. Pichon's despatch from Pekin to the Foreign Office is dated August 9. It says:

"We are absolutely ignorant of what goes on outside the legations which continue to exist behind barricades and surrounded by offensive works."

"If negotiations hinder the march of the foreign troops in which is our only safety, we risk falling into the hands of the Chinese. The quarter in which the French Legation is situated is still occupied by Imperial troops who have not completely ceased their fire. All the legation's apartments with their contents have been burned."

"We are reduced to siege rations. We have provisions of horse, rice, and bread for a fortnight."

It is believed that all of the Government participating in the advance upon Pekin have given orders to their troops to make haste in an endeavor to rescue the foreigners from the Boxers.

There is a strong hope here that the allies may have already come within sight of the capital, and that, either through a desperate assault or the capitulation of the Chinese, they will soon accomplish the object of their forced march upon Peking.

Another despatch bearing upon the situation at Pekin has been received by the British Foreign Office from Chin Chou Lo Feng Lab, the Chinese Minister to Great Britain, but because of its Chinese origin is not given full credence. It states that the foreign legations in Pekin were safe on August 13.

The Japanese Minister to Great Britain said today that the whole Japanese force was marching toward Pekin with the allies. He did not think the Chinese would make a stand before reaching the capital.

The relief force, judging from this, is a formidable one, and really much larger than has been believed.

A despatch from Shanghai says that British troops from India have arrived there, but the Viceroy objects to their landing. It is believed that the Viceroy has been urged to take this course by the French and Russian consuls. Vice Admiral Seymour is waiting for instructions from the British Government before taking any further action.

A despatch to a news agency from Peking, dated of August 5, says of the fighting in that vicinity:

"The Japanese did all the hardest work. They advanced boldly across a plain where there was no shelter, and by outflanking the Chinese drove them from a series of strong mud walls and trenches which extended for five miles. One feature of the fighting was a brilliant charge of the Japanese cavalry which captured ten field guns."

The British naval guns and two big Russian guns silenced the Chinese artillery.

"The Chinese retreated in good order and left only a few of their dead on the field, but I counted 200 Japanese dead and wounded."

"The Americans had no casualties."

PROGRESS OF THE ALLIES.

General Gaslee Says Rain May Delay the Advance.

LONDON, Aug. 15.—The Admiralty has received a despatch from Rear Admiral Bruce at Taku, which says:

"Received following from Gaslee, dated Ho-si-wu, August 10:

"Troops distant from Pekin twenty-seven miles. Experienced little opposition. Enemy fled. Tartars were charged by two squadrons Bengal Lancers. Many of the former were killed."

The standards of General Mah and General Sung were captured. Troops much exhausted by heat, but health and spirits excellent."

"Another despatch from General Gaslee dated August 11 says the advance may be delayed by rain."

"BRUCE."

COMMAND OF THE ALLIES.

France Not Ready to Reply on the Appointment of a German.

PARIS, Aug. 15.—The "Gaulois" says the French Cabinet has not agreed upon the terms of a reply favorable to the principle of the appointment of a German, Field Marshal Count Von Waldersee, to the chief command of the allies in China.

Niagara Falls Excursion, August 16, Via B. & O., \$10.00.

Special train of day coaches and parlor cars without charge, leave B. & O. station, 8:30 a. m. Stops over all return trip. Tickets good for ten days. Specially low rate excursions from Niagara Falls in connection with this excursion.

Muscle and Dancing All Day.

Cheapeake Beach train, 10, 11, 2, 5 and 6 o'clock.

Frame dwelling houses best supplied in building from 6th and N. Y. ave.; clear doors only \$1.25.

PASSENGER TRAINS COLLIDE.

Nine Lives Lost in a Michigan Railway Wreck.

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., Aug. 15.—Two passenger trains on the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad collided head-on at Pierston, twenty-nine miles north of Grand Rapids, early this morning in a dense fog. Both trains were going at a good rate of speed. The wreck was a bad one.

Nine lives were lost, including both engineers and both firemen, and there are said to be many bodies in the wreck, which is expected to make the list of injured a long one.

Two miles from Pierston is a siding. One engineer was trying to make this switch while the other engineer expected that the train following in the opposite direction was awaiting him at the switch.

The road immediately started the wrecking train from Grand Rapids and as many physicians as could be hurriedly reached went with it to the scene of the disaster.

The Northland left Grand Rapids at 4:05 a. m. and consisted of a number of sleeping cars, a baggage car, and a Pullman dining car. It was called the River, and was expected to be the finest train on the road.

The other train was a local one in Grand Rapids at 6 o'clock. There were not many passengers aboard. Six persons were taken out of the wreck in a short time, and a dozen more, some of them fatally injured, were sent to the hotel at Pierston, half a mile away.

The killed are: Gustavus Groenfeld, engineer; William H. Fish, engineer; Charles M. Lettis, conductor; Ralph Levin, son of the baggage man; William Bert, son of the Pullman porter; and a fireman; Louis G. Boyle, trainman; a Pioneer passenger, Franklin, Ind. Mark Blosser, news agent, is fatally injured. Eight others were injured.

The railway officials announce that the accident was caused by Telegraph Operator Wells, at Mill Creek, sleeping at his post. He was called up and asked if the express train had passed, and said no, when it was already speeding on its way to destruction. The orders to the conductors of the trains were based on the false information.

COLLISION IN COLORADO.

Two Persons Killed and Five Hurt at Monument.

DENVER, Colo., Aug. 15.—Two persons were killed and five injured in a head-on collision between a passenger train and a freight train at Monument yesterday.

The dead are B. S. Gilbert, of Manitou, Col., and James Gilbert of Fowler, Col.

COLLAPSE OF A BRIDGE.

Two Men Injured and Two Mules Killed by a Fall.

FRONT ROYAL, Va., Aug. 15.—A serious accident occurred at Riverston, Va., one mile from this town, yesterday at 3 o'clock.

While a team of two mules belonging to Hon. H. H. Downing was being driven across the bridge spanning Happy Creek, and leading to the limekilns, and rock-crusher of the Carson Lime Company the bridge gave way, precipitating the team and two drivers, Joseph Releford, white, and George Washington, colored, into the creek below.

Both mules were killed and young Releford was fractured, but, though seriously injured, did not want to be dropped. Talbot had not time to save any of his effects. Even while Sullivan was speaking, water came into the cabin and he made a spring for the door. The ship sank a few minutes after he got ashore.

Chief Quartermaster Anderson, who was on the watch at the time, heard the explosion. He said he could not tell what had exploded. The hold was filled with steam and water was pouring into a large rut that had been torn in the side of the vessel. The ship sank too quickly for anybody to ascertain the cause of the explosion, and some of these, unheeded by their hasty scramble to the wharf, were unable to tell anything of the affair when seen by a reporter this morning.

THE ANTI-IMPERIALISTS.

Ex-Governor Boutwell, of Massachusetts, for Permanent Chairman.

INDIANAPOLIS, Aug. 15.—The American League of Anti-Imperialists began the first session of what they term a "Liberty Congress" in Tomlinson Hall at 11 o'clock this morning. About one hundred delegates were present, but the promoters still insist that six hundred will arrive before adjournment.

The congress was called to order by George G. Merzer, of the Philadelphia. He read the call for the meeting issued in New York and made a few remarks indicating the purpose of the congress. Rev. Herbert Bigelow, of Cincinnati, invoked the divine blessing, and Prof. Albert H. Tolman, of Chicago University, read the Declaration of Independence.

At the suggestion of the executive committee, Edwin Burritt Smith, of Chicago, was nominated for temporary chairman. After his address the session was adjourned. There was no recess at noon.

This afternoon the committee on permanent organization reported the name of ex-Gov. George S. Boutwell, of Massachusetts, for permanent chairman.

A NEGRO DISCIPLINED.

Whipped for Getting in the Way of White Passengers.

NEW ORLEANS, Aug. 15.—The committee appointed by the recent white mass meeting in Cheneyville, La., to regulate the negroes of that neighborhood, went to work yesterday. The resolutions adopted ordered the negroes to give way on the sidewalk to white people and also prohibited them from gathering at the railroad depot.

A young negro, Walter Brown, jumped on a railroad train today, and got in the way of some white passengers. It was decided by the committee to discipline him. He was, therefore, marched to the business center of the town, straightened out, and given fifty lashes with a cowhide whip, in the presence of a large audience of whites and negroes.

Moonshine Plant Confiscated.

SCRANTON, Pa., Aug. 15.—Government officers, headed by U. S. Service Agent Newhardt of Philadelphia, and Deputy Clark Lowery, of this city, yesterday brought in a complete "moonshine" plant unearthed in the mountains back of Archibald, in the locality known as the "Ridge."

They were the property of a Hungarian named Martin Light. When the officers surprised Light he was in bed asleep. While dressing himself he found his watchmen's attention directed for a moment, and he fled through the window and made his escape in the darkness.

T. A. Wickerson, General Agent, Land Department, Chesapeake Beach Railway, office at Baltimore, on board; no red caps.

Always a Cool Salt Breeze. See for yourself at Chesapeake Beach.

Cargo lots of North Carolina Boards. Some boards only \$1.15 at 6th and N. Y. ave. nw.

WRECK OF THE BERMUDA

Notorious Filibustering Steamer Sunk by an Explosion.

Went Down at Her Wharf in Philadelphia Almost Without Warning.

The Accident a Mysterious One. Boiler Believed to Have Blown Up.

The Narrow Escape of Her Crew. Loss of the Vessel Followed a Race With the Norwegian Steamship America From San Antonio, Jamaica, to the Quaker City, Which Began a Week Ago Today.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 15.—The notorious ex-filibustering steamer, Bermuda, was sunk at the wharf of the West India Fruit Company, Pier 19, North Wharves, at an early hour this morning, by a mysterious explosion. Those on board barely escaped with their lives, so quickly did the ship settle in the water.

The explosion was evidently not a loud one, as it was not heard on Delaware Avenue, and some of the crew, though awakened by the concussion, did not know what had occurred until told. The chief steward of the ship did not hesitate to say that the explosion, in view of the many troubles the vessel has gone through, was a mysterious one, but a race with another steamship chartered by a rival fruit company may have had something to do with it.

The Bermuda and the Norwegian steamer, America, Captain Esenstien, consigned to the United Fruit Company, in this city, started from San Antonio, Jamaica, a week ago today. Their course naturally kept them together, and nothing was spoken of by conversation, they really believed to win the race to this port. They arrived at the breakwater at about the same time and proceeded up the river yesterday morning.

At New York Island, the America was about twenty minutes ahead. At Marcus Hook the two vessels were thirty-three minutes behind each other, with the America still in the lead. When they reached their respective piers, there was scarcely a difference of five minutes in their time. The trip is said to be one of the fastest ever made between the two ports.

The Bermuda, besides having her usual cargo of fruit, brought seven passengers from San Antonio.

The Bermuda was loaded about 11 o'clock yesterday morning, and proceeded to discharge a cargo of bananas, pineapples, lemons, and other fruit.

Those on board the ship were: Second Mate, J. H. Stewart; William J. Talbot, Chief Engineer; Edward Jones, Chief Steward; and Charles Melner, Mate. Mr. Jones was washed, and Fireman Albert Simpson.

Mate Ennis, Chief Steward Talbot, and Custom House Officer Sullivan, were in the cabin until about 2:30 o'clock this morning when Talbot went to bed. Chief Quartermaster Anderson was on watch.

Exactly what occurred after that nobody seems to know. Talbot says that he was awakened by something, and a moment later he saw a flash of light. He then told him that there had been an explosion in the engine room; that the ship was rapidly sinking, and to get ashore as fast as he could.

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ILLINOIS FOR BRYAN.

Mr. Cuddy Predicts That the State Will Go Democratic.

Among the callers at Democratic headquarters this morning was J. T. Cuddy, of Illinois. Mr. Cuddy is in close touch with the Democratic leaders of the "Sucker" State and is thoroughly posted. "Illinois," said he to a Times reporter, "is not only a debatable ground, but there is every reason to believe Bryan will carry it by a pronounced majority."

"I believe he will receive at least 60 per cent of the German vote in Illinois this year. Several of the influential German papers in the State that fought Bryan four years ago are now supporting him, and there are one or two other German papers that supported McKinley in 1896 that are now opposing him, although not urging Bryan's election. This time the Democracy of Illinois is united, and there is much discord in the ranks of the Republicans. I see it stated that Senator Mason will take the stump for McKinley. Now Senator Mason is a Republican, but it is well known to all the voters in the State that the Senator is not in sympathy with the imperial policy of the Administration, and therefore he will do McKinley no harm there."

"There is no spotty among the Democrats in this campaign; they are not divided nor split as they were in 1896. They are united in a large measure for M. K. Bryan's vote. The Democratic candidate for Governor of Illinois is a prominent German, and Bryan will receive every German vote that is cast for the candidate for Governor. The reason is